

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Wismuth A.G. in Saalfeld

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1. Director General Maltsev of Wismuth A.G., is reported to have returned to the USSR about July 1950. Before he returned to the USSR, his office was located at Teplice-Sanov, Czechoslovakia. Werner Link, the German administrative chief in Saalfeld, reported directly to Maltsev and often saw him in Teplice-Sanov. General Yussalev, chief mining engineer at the Wismuth headquarters in Teplice-Sanov, has been with Wismuth for the past three years. Gabriellov, a Russian, about 30 years old, is the chief geophysicist in Saalfeld and is in charge of detection and investigation of new uranium mining areas in Thuringia. Gabriellov is reportedly two months behind in his work, chiefly because the counters presently in use do not work in damp weather. Gabriellov is said to be in great fear of losing his job and is anxiously awaiting the arrival of new counters from Western Germany in order to make up for lost time. In the case of delinquent fulfillment of work projects at Wismuth, a special office located in Chemnitz makes the necessary investigations. A Soviet representative of this Chemnitz office is regularly assigned to Wismuth in Saalfeld for the purpose of making investigations and checking on the political reliability of Wismuth personnel.
2. A detachment of both Russian and German technicians was sent from Saalfeld to the Carpathian region for the development of new uranium mining areas near Salopane and Przemyśl in Poland. The Salopane ore is described as having a high thorium content. In both areas the major deposits are only 20 m below the earth's surface, whereas in Thuringia the workable deposits are usually 60 to 100 m below the surface.
3. Among the foreign technicians previously employed at Saalfeld who were sent to Poland was a certain Antonelli, an Italian Communist official who fled Italy for unknown reasons and had been employed at Saalfeld for the past few years as a dynamiter. Ores mined at Saalfeld are packed for shipment in wooden boxes with lead covers 80 cm by 40 cm by 40 cm in dimensions. The boxes are shipped in trucks to a location near Chemnitz and are always accompanied by a Soviet guard. Near Chemnitz, possibly at Siegmars (US1/US5), the ores are refined to approximately 60 percent purity, and packed in lead cases, which when filled weigh 10 kilograms, for shipment to the USSR.

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4. The Saalfeld mining area is known in Soviet nomenclature as Object Saalfeld, and the various mining projects in the area are assigned numbers. The following projects belonging to Object Saalfeld have been identified:

Object 1 - Feengrotte mining project
Object 2 - Amsreuth mining project
Object 3 - Mining project "bei der Schokoladenfabrik"

5. Although it was intended that the entire Wismuth staff for Thuringia be brought together in Saalfeld, it was found that all sections of the staff could not be housed in Saalfeld, and part of the administrative staff is, therefore, still in Ilmenau. All scientific working staffs are located in Saalfeld.
6. Known Soviet military units in Thuringia include one armored regiment in Saalfeld, one motorized infantry regiment in Rudolstadt, one infantry regiment in Jena and one infantry regiment and one artillery regiment in Weimar.

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